



Arkansas Department of Education

Four Capitol Mall • Little Rock, Arkansas • 72201-1030 • (501) 682-4475 • Fax (501) 682-1079

Asa Hutchinson
Governor

Johnny Key
Secretary

March 9, 2020

Dear Schools,

The Arkansas Departments of Education and Health are dedicated to the health and safety of all Arkansas children and students. This commitment includes protecting them from unwanted exposure to harmful chemicals, such as lead.

We are pleased to announce that under Gov. Asa Hutchinson's leadership, Arkansas received a \$420,000 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to test for lead in drinking water at schools and daycares around the state. This grant covers the costs associated with testing, but it does so much more – it gives us additional peace of mind in knowing that our children have safe, clean drinking water.

The harmful effects associated with lead can be lifelong if exposure is not identified and corrected early in life. In many cases, exposure may occur without a school or daycare facility knowing it is even there. Because of this, we highly encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity. To learn more, please visit <https://bit.ly/2tCN5wM> and contact Tim Cain, the director of the Arkansas Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation, at (501) 682-4261.

Together, we will do our part to ensure our children and students have access to safe and healthy environments that promote learning and growing.

Sincerely,


Johnny Key, Secretary
Arkansas Department of Education


Dr. Nate Smith, Secretary
Arkansas Department of Health